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NI 1207

The People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs (NKID)

Indorse

From: OTTAWA  
To: MOSCOW  
No: 493-498

2 August 1944

Part I

[75 groups unrecoverable]

military planes were sent via

[38 groups unrecovered]

land-lease, [1 group unidentified and 5 groups unrecoverable] since the adoption of the aid policy, i.e. since October 1941. Of this number about half went to Russia via Edmonton, [13 groups unrecovered] United States) [43 groups unrecovered] (Alaska) [57 groups unrecovered] 50-mile hop [59 groups unrecovered]

Part II

[10 groups unrecovered and  
65 groups unrecoverable]

Whitehorse (Yukon), and during 1941

[17 groups unrecovered]

and radio-[1 group unidentified].

When Japan struck the blow at Pearl Harbor and the northern [7 groups unrecoverable] from the USSR was immediately made available for American planes returning to Alaska and the Aleutians. Today this north-

[46 groups unrecoverable]

link is [1 group unidentified].

The government [6 groups unrecovered] — Whitehorse [3 groups unrecovered] vitally important links in the worldwide [68 groups unrecovered and 11 groups unrecoverable]

Part III

Since 14 September [3 groups unrecovered] planes with red stars

[53 groups unrecoverable]

pilot [1 group unidentified] planes from Alaska to the Russian front. [1 group unidentified] those [3 groups unidentified or garbled] do not work in our town, although

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2.

[132 groups unrecovered or unrecoverable]

Part IV

In connection with this, today [1]

[65 groups unrecoverable]

information cannot be published in the press. [7 groups unrecovered] by [1 group unrecovered] of July 1 [2 groups unrecovered] Robertson[i] of the fact that the Soviet government [is considering?]

[51 groups not available]

enemy and many [5 groups unidentified] allies. At the time of [1 group unidentified] Robertson promised that no article will be published in the Canadian press if it is not published in the press of the USA. He, Robertson, told us in our last conversation that he will [CI maintain] contact with WASHINGTON on this matter and if [there is?] any news he [will tell?] us about [it?].

In spite of this, articles appeared today in many Canadian papers containing information about the number of American planes supplied to the USSR and [2 groups unidentified]. I

[60 groups unrecoverable and  
14 groups unrecovered].

Part V

In his reply Robertson [CI conceded] the correctness of the story of this affair recounted by us [1 group unrecovered] and said that he [2 groups unidentified] his sanction and has not authorized publishing an article in the Canadian magazine MacLean's, but at the same time he has been watching how [2 groups unidentified] question with [2 groups unidentified] article in the American magazine Collier's. According to agreement between the censorship agencies of Canada and the USA, materials published in the USA in [1 group unidentified] published in Canada

[63 groups unrecoverable]

planes and the number of them. Articles [1 group unrecovered] Department of Foreign Affairs [2 groups unrecovered] above-mentioned agreement, not [2 groups unrecovered] censorship agencies [1 group unrecovered] publication of articles [1 group unrecovered] Canadian press. Robertson showed us the latest telegram from the Canadian ambassador in the USA, in which it is reported that Stettinius, on

[26 groups unrecoverable]

edition of this magazine is impossible. On the basis of this, said Robertson, [1 group unidentified] completely clear that in the USA materials will be published in [1 group unidentified] these conditions we [1 group unidentified] possibility [3 groups unidentified] aforementioned information in Canada, since

[35 groups unrecoverable]

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[most not best] published in Canada if it has not been printed in the news-papers of the USA.

Part VI

[1 group unidentified] Americans [2 groups unidentified] the news-papers information about deliveries of planes to the USSR via Alaska, [2 groups unidentified] done with the permission of [1 group unidentified] of the USA, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada [falsified?] that [1 group unidentified] publication of this information in the Canadian press already [2 groups unidentified]. Therefore, Robertson said to me, it is not the Canadians that are guilty of disclosing military secrets, but the Americans. I told Robertson that not [1 group unidentified] with him [1 group unidentified] agreement made between the USA and

[71 groups unrecoverable]

. Robertson said that if

[18 groups unrecovered]

censorship in Canada, then he would be glad to give such instructions

[27 groups unrecoverable, including signature]

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Source:

(1) Norman Alexander ROBERTSON, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

18 April 1977

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